

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 07998 01 OF 03 062156Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 /105 W
-----129332 062218Z /75
R 061955Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8204

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 07998

USOECD

PASS TREASURY FOR ASSISTANT SECTY BRILL AND DEPTY ASSIST
SECTY JUNZ

E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: EGEN OECD
SUBJECT: INTERFUTURES STEERING COMMITTEE - FEB 15-16

REF: PARIS 02922

1. SUMMARY: FEB 15-16 INTERFUTURES STEERING COMMITTEE
GAVE GENERAL ENDORSEMENT TO RESEARCH TEAM'S WORK PLAN
FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR AND AGREED TO GENERAL
STRUCTURE AND MAIN THEMES FOR A SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING
TO BE HELD IN JUNE OR (MORE LIKELY) EARLY FALL. STEER-
ING COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED CONCLUSION OF JANUARY EXPERT
M-ETING (REFTEL) THAT CUT-OFF DATE OF MAY 1 SHOULD BE
SET FOR DETERMINATION OF WHETHER PREPARATIONS ARE
ADEQUATE FOR A JUNE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING. ORAL PRE-
SENTATIONS BY TEAM MEMBERS OF THE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
OF THEIR WORK IN THIS FINAL PHASE OF PROJECT WERE SOME-
WHAT ENCOURAGING. HOWEVER, DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 07998 01 OF 03 062156Z

CONCERN OVER TEAM'S ABILITY TO PREPARE FOR SENIOR OFFI-
CIALS MEETING AND COMPLETE WIDE RANGING RESEARCH FOR
FINAL PROJECT REPORT IN THE TIME REMAINING THIS YEAR.
US, EC, AND OTHERS VOICED STRONG VIEW THAT ESSENTIALLY
"GEOPOLITICAL" SCENARIOS OUTLINED IN CHAPTER XX ARE IN-
APPROPRIATE FRAMEWORK FOR PRESENTATION OF INTERFUTURES'
FINAL RESULTS. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING WAS SET

FOR APRIL 26-27. END SUMMARY

2. FEB 15-16 INTERFUTURES STEERING COMMITTEE HEARD OUTLINE BY INTERFUTURES TEAM OF WORK PLAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FINAL YEAR OF PROJECT. WORK WILL PROCEED ALONG TWO INTERRELATED TRACKS:

A) INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH INTO A COHERENT FINAL REPORT STRESSING INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF ISSUES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY;

B) A MORE INTENSIVE FOCUS ON KEY POLICY ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AT A MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS WHICH TEAM PROPOSED BE HELD IN LATE JUNE OR EARLY FALL.

3. INTEGRATION. INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH WILL BE BASED ON

A) CONSTRUCTION OF SCENARIOS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS DESIGNED TO ELUCIDATE PROBLEMS AND CONFLICTS (QUANTITATIVELY, SCENARIOS WILL BE BASED ON ADAPTATIONS OF UK SARU MODEL, WORLD BANK'S LDC GROWTH PROJECTIONS AND INTERFUTURES' OWN SIMPLE MODELLING WORK); AND

B) EXAMINATION OF STRUCTURAL CHANGE, EVOLUTION OF DEMANDS AND ATTITUDES IN OECD COUNTRIES, AND LDC DEVELOPMENTS CURRENTLY UNDER WAY IN INTERFUTURES' PHASE C. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 07998 01 OF 03 062156Z

4. DELEGATIONS WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT IN DETAIL ON THE INTEGRATION WORK IN THE CONTINUED ABSENCE OF WRITTEN MATERIAL OUTLINING FRAMEWORK FOR FINAL REPORT AND ITS ANTICIPATED CONCLUSIONS. STATEMENTS BY INTERFUTURES TEAM GAVE SOME REASON FOR ENCOURAGEMENT THAT USEFUL WORK MAY BE PRODUCED. HOWEVER, DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN OVER WHETHER TEAM WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE WIDE RANGING RESEARCH AND PREPARE FINAL REPORT IN THE TIME REMAINING. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING US, VOICED STRONG VIEW THAT ESSENTIALLY "GEOPOLITICAL" SCENARIOS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER XX WERE INAPPROPRIATE FRAMEWORK FOR INTERFUTURES' FINAL REPORT. EC (BOTH COMMISSION AND DANISH REPS) VOICED COORDINATED PROTEST AGAINST LACK OF ATTENTION TO EC SOLIDARITY IN CHAPTER XX SCENARIOS AND CAUTIONED SPECIFICALLY THAT SCENARIO POSTULATING NORTH/SOUTH SPLIT IN EUROPE COULD BE POLITICALLY DAMAGING FOR COMMUNITY. LESOURNE'S RESPONSE WAS EQUIVOCAL, INDICATING THAT SCENARIOS MAY CONTINUE AS AN ELEMENT OF TENSION BETWEEN INTERFUTURES TEAM AND STEERING COMMITTEE. WHILE HE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 07998 02 OF 03 062202Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 /105 W

-----129404 062219Z /75

R 061955Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8205

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 07998

USOECD

SOUGHT TO DOWN PLAY ROLE OF SCENARIOS, AND TO COUCH THEM IN MORE ECONOMIC TERMS, HE STOPPED SHORT OF INDICATING THAT THEY WOULD BE ELIMINATED FROM INTERFUTURES' FINAL PRESENTATION.

5. LESOURNE INDICATED THAT PHASE A AND B REPORTS WOULD NOT BE REVISED AND THAT THERE WAS NO INTENTION OF PUBLISHING THEM. TEAM WOULD, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO WELCOME COMMENTS FROM GOVERNMENTS, WHICH WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN FINAL INTEGRATION OF PROJECT WORK.

6. SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING. STEERING COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED VIEW OF JANUARY EXPERT MEETING (REFTEL) THAT THERE SHOULD BE CUTOFF DATE OF MAY 1 BY WHICH DECISION ON WHETHER TO GO AHEAD WITH A JUNE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING WOULD BE TAKEN. MAIN CRITERION FOR DECISION WILL BE QUALITY OF PAPERS PREPARED BY INTERFUTURES TEAM. A NUMBER OF DELS PUSHED FOR CONTINUED EFFORT TO HOLD MEETING IN JUNE. JAPANESE URGED THAT IT BE HELD PRIOR TO OECD MINISTERIAL TO PERMIT AN INTERFUTURES PROGRESS REPORT TO MINISTERS. SEVERAL DELS ADVOCATED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 07998 02 OF 03 062202Z

HOLDING SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING BACK-TO-BACK WITH MINISTERIAL TO FACILITATE HIGH-LEVEL ATTENDANCE. US AND GERMAN DELS WERE MORE SKEPTICAL THAT ADEQUATE PREPARATIONS COULD BE MADE IN TIME FOR A JUNE MEETING IN VIEW OF NEED FOR TIME TO REVIEW PAPERS IN CAPITALS, AND THEY NOTED THAT APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS WERE LIKELY TO BE VERY OCCUPIED IN PERIOD BETWEEN OECD MINISTERIAL AND SUMMIT. IT WAS LEFT THAT INTERFUTURES TEAM WOULD CONTINUE TO PREPARE FOR A JUNE MEETING, BUT IT WAS RECOGNIZED IN THE CORRIDORS THAT LIKELIHOOD IS HIGH THAT IT WILL SLIP TO THE FALL. CONSENSUS WAS THAT QUESTION OF WHETHER TO HOLD IN ADDITION A BROADER "CONFERENCE" TO REVIEW INTERFUTURES RESULTS WILL BE LEFT OPEN UNTIL AFTER DECISION ON TIMING OF MORE RESTRICTED SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING.

7. SEVERAL DELS PUSHED FOR CLARIFICATION OF DESIRED LEVEL OF PARTICIPANTS AT SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING. GENERAL VIEW WAS THAT REPRESENTATION SHOULD BE BELOW MINISTERIAL RANK BUT AT A LEVEL HIGH ENOUGH TO ENSURE BROAD POLICY COMPETENCE ON ENTIRE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES.

8. THERE WAS AGREEMENT TO LESOURNE'S PROPOSAL THAT DISCUSSION AT SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING SHOULD FOCUS ON THREE MAIN THEMES:

A. "LONGER-TERM PROSPECTS FOR GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CAPABILITY OF ADAPTING TO A STRUCTURAL CHANGE.

B. "LONGER-TERM EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES OF DIFFERENT PATTERNS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 07998 02 OF 03 062202Z

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO GROWING INTERDEPENDENCE BETWEEN ADVANCED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

C. "LONGER-TERM PROSPECTS FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION OR CONFLICT IN THE WORLD ECONOMY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM AND ITS CAPACITY TO CONTAIN THE TENSIONS ARISING FROM COMPETING CLAIMS."

FOLLOWING FRENCH SUGGESTION, INTERFUTURES PREPARATION FOR DISCUSSION OF THEME A WILL CONCENTRATE ON CAPABILITY OF GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO

PROMOTE ADAPTIVE CAPACITY. DOCUMENTATION WILL CONSIST OF A BACKGROUND PAPER ALONG LINES OUTLINED IN FUT(78)3, A MAIN ISSUES PAPER KEYED TO THE THREE MAIN THEMES, AND SEPARATE SUPPORTING PAPERS DEVELOPING CERTAIN KEY PROBLEM AREAS UNDER THE THREE MAIN THEMES. US REP, BACKED BY JAPANESE AND SEVERAL OTHERS, URGED THAT INTERFUTURES NOT LOSE SIGHT OF ITS PURPOSE: IT SHOULD FOCUS ON LONG-TERM ISSUES AND THEIR INTERRELATIONSHIPS. JAPANESE REPS FURTHER EMPHASIZED THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS AN EXERCISE SEPARATE FROM BASIC INTERFUTURES RESEARCH BUT THAT ISSUES PRESENTED TO SENIOR OFFICIALS BE CLEARLY BASED ON WORK CONDUCTED BY THE TEAM IN EARLIER PHASES OF THE PROJECT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 07998 03 OF 03 062149Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 /105 W
-----129239 062218Z /75

R 062139Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8206

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 07998

USOECD

9. NEXT MEETING. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE WAS SET FOR APRIL 26-27.

10. MISSION COMMENT; MAIN THEMES FOR SENIOR OFFICIAL MEETING OUTLINED PARA 8 SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY OF OVERLAP WITH STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT EXERCISE CURRENTLY UNDER PREPARATION FOR XCSS. WE WILL WANT TO TAKE CARE THAT THESE TWO EXERCISES COMPLEMENT RATHER THAN DUPLICATE EACH OTHER.

SALZMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, CAPITAL FLOWS, ECONOMIC TRENDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS07998
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780101-0488
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803102/aaaadiuy.tel
Line Count: 279
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8529f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 2922
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3106372
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERFUTURES STEERING COMMITTEE - FEB 15-16
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8529f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014